

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BERLIN 05000 020847Z

12

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

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R 020830Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY BERLIN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 182

INFO AMEMBASSY BONN

USMISSION USBERLIN

C O N F I D E N T I A L BERLIN 5000

EXDIS

FOR ASSISTANT SECRETARY HARTMAN

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ETRD, OVIP, GE, US, BEXP, PFOR

SUBJECT: GDR DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BEIL'S VISIT

1. IN THE EARLY PART OF JANUARY I WILL BE MAKING A NUMBER OF CALLS ON GDR OFFICIALS, PARTICULARLY IN THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS. THE SUBJECT OD DEPUTY FOREIGN TRADE MINISTER BEIL'S VISIT TO THE U.S. IS LIKELY TO ARISE.

2. IN BERLIN 6150 THE EMBASSY REVIEWED THE HISTORY OF THIS MATTER, NOTING THAT IN THE EARLY STAGES OF OUR CONSIDERATION OF BEIL'S VISIT WE ENCOURAGED HIM TO PLAN HIS TRIP FOR JANUARY OF 1975. THERE FOLLWED A NUMBER OF INDICATIONS FROM THE EAST GERMANS THAT BEIL COULD HAVE A BROAD MANDATE IN WASHINGTON, AND WE SUBSEQUENTLY CONCLUDED THAT HIS VISIT WOULD BEST BE POSTPONED TO A LATER DATE (STATE 266236).

3. I AM PREPARED TO REAFFIRM THIS VIEW TO GDR AUTHORITIES, PROVIDED THE DEPARTMENT CONTINUES TO BELIEVE, AFTER CONSIDERATION OF BERLIN 6150, THAT THIS COURSE IS IN THE BEST U.S. INTEREST.

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4. ON THE OTHER HAND, IF IT IS AGAIN MADE CLEAR THAT

BEIL'S TRIP IS FOR ORIENTATION PURPOSES ONLY (WHICH
IS WHAT THE GDR NOW ASSURES US) I BELIEVE A GOOD CASE
CAN BE MADE FOR PERMITTING THIS VISIT TO TAKE PLACE
SOON AS (1) AN OPPORTUNITY FOR BEIL TO LEARN AT
FIRST HAND WHAT WASHINGTON VIEWS AND PRIORITIES ARE;
AND (2) AS A CONSTRUCTIVE AND GOOD
FAITH GESTURE AT LITTLE OR NO COST TO OURSELVES IN
THE EARLY AND FORMATIVE STATES OF OUR RELATIONS WITH
THE GDR.COOPER

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